A Lesson in Socialism

from a circulating email, author unknown Jan. 1, 2004

In the original fable the daughter was a very liberal Democrat and the father was a staunch Republican. I have reworded it to the more generic equivalent of very dedicated socialist and capitalist.

One time there was a young teenage girl that was about to finish her first year of college. She considered herself to be a very dedicated socialist and her father was a staunch capitalist.

One day she was challenging her father on his beliefs and his opposition to programs like welfare. He stopped her and asked her how she was doing in school. She answered that she had a 4.0 GPA but it was really tough. She had to study all the time, never had time to go out and often sent sleepless because all of the studying. She didn't have time for a boyfriend and didn't really have many college friends because of all her studying.

He then asked how her friend, Mary, that was attending the same college was doing. She replied that she was barely getting by. She had a 2.0 GPA, never studied. She was very popular on campus and was at parties all the time. She often would not show up for classes because she was hung over.

He then asked his daughter why she didn't go to the Dean's office and ask why she couldn't take 1.0 off her 4.0 and give it to her friend that only had a 2.0. That way they would both have a 3.0 GPA.

The daughter fired back and said, "That would not be fair. I worked really hard for mine and my friend has done nothing." The father smiled and said, "Welcome to capitalism!"